Florida CHESS

FLORIDA CHESS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

Winter - February 28, 2023

Contributing to the Chess Explosion!!!

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Send to the FCA (c/o Treasurer) or online (Memberships/Join FCA)

Regular	—	$20 (for two years)
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Florida Chess Association (FCA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization devoted exclusively to the promotion of chess in Florida. FCA is the official USCF affiliate for the state of Florida. FCA web site — **http://www.floridachess.org**

floridaCHESS is a publication of the Florida Chess Association and is available four times a year online. **Contact Editor for advertising rates.**
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Editor Speaks

Many of our readers know the story of "The Queens Gambit" and it's affect on the growth of chess. It was 2020 and Anya Taylor-Joy charmed the pandemic sequestered public with the Netflix version of the book written by Walter Tevis and chess boomed as a result. We are now several years removed from that phenomenon and Chess continues to grow. This is not happening in a vacuum. First, we have to give credit to the game. Its brilliant in so many ways and in and of itself is a captivating game that appeals to a broad spectrum of the population. That said, smart, savvy, people are hard at work growing our great game and as a tribute to these efforts I have paid homage to many of the influencers growing chess in Florida (*also, the nation and the world) on this month's cover of floridaCHESS magazine.

I'm not trying to hold up any one source here, but rather recognize a portion of what is a much larger group. On the national level the USCF hit an all-time high and went over 100,000 members for the first time in it's history. A lot of planning, volunteers, and work going on in that organization... Also, on U.S. soil, the likes of Levy Rozman @gothamchess on Youtube (I personally love watching him and I'm not alone as he will likely be over the 1 Billion views mark by the time some of you read this.... "ok, get outta here"). Ben Johnson has provided amazing and captivating content via the podcast format with "The Perptetual Chess Podcast." He has also helped to define and grow the "adult improver" segment of the chess population.

On the global level, Youtube and podcasts are also hugely noteworthy, but some of the larger forces of chess influence are the online providers... Chess.com, Chesskid.com, Chessable.com, and LiChess (and there are others). As an example, chess.com reached the #1 spot for free games in the IOS app store on February 2nd and gained over 400,000 new members February 3rd. While this might be melting server farms and causing growing pains, its great for the game of chess. I was also pleased to see that Chess Bot "Mittens" was a big hit. Bots aside, Magnus Carlsen has been an inspiring World Champion and also deserves much credit for the current growth in the game.

Finally, our own Bryan Tillis, the FCA Board, FCA Affiliates and Members, TDs, Coaches, Youtubers, and Podcasters and Parents can all take credit for growing the game in Florida. I'm thankful for all the groups and individuals mentioned (and many not mentioned) here for growing the game. Enjoy this month's magazine, it's full of interesting content from this very group.

George Foote

Editor, floridaCHESS Magazine

from the President's desk

Dear FCA members and the Florida Chess Community,

The primary focus in this past quarter has been to improve communication between chess players in our state and places to play chess. The FCA board recently unveiled the Clubs and Collegiate links on our website. This will go a long way in answering one of the most popular emails I had been receiving that started with: "Are there any chess clubs in my city?" The new layout will help players to find a game in their immediate area with the locals that have made Florida Chess one of the fastest growing chess hubs in the US. We sincerely hope that this list is beneficial to Florida residents and encourage any active organizer to contact us to be added. We want to put you in touch with the clubs that make our state great for chess players.

Speaking of new initiatives, I need to highlight the good work of board member Derek Zhang. Derek has stepped up and will be hosting the 2023 Florida State Collegiate Chess Championships. It is a joy to see that COVID did not stop our championship events and we are now back in full swing with five events planned! The first of those events just concluded with a full article in the Spring edition of floridaCHESS. We had the chess number of 64 participants in the Florida State Women and Girls Championships! We can look forward to the next event on our calendar, the Florida State Scholastic Championships in Orlando.

I would like to say I have been met with a large amount of support from chess players around the state as I entered my new role as President of Florida Chess. I sincerely appreciate the support and as always, feel free to contact me at bryan@floridachess.org, if I can support you.

Bryan Tillis
President
Florida Chess Association

2023 Florida State Women & Girls Championships

By NM Bryan Tillis

The First Florida State Women and Girls Championships was a 5-round swiss tournament held from the 4th to the 5th of February in Boca Raton.

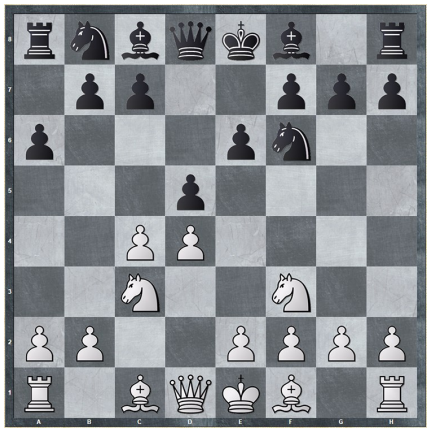
We had the iconic chess number of 64 players competing in this historic event. The major goal of the tournament was to reach new players and encourage and promote women and girls chess. Nearly half of the participants were new to tournaments and they left the event with smiling faces and a great experience.

The championship section was won by WFM Amelia Hernandez 4.5/5 The top finishing K-12 Girls at 4.0 were Zoe Zelner and Sophie Li. Zoe had the better tiebreak and is our 2023 Florida representative to the Haring Tournament of Champions at the US Open.

(156) Chile Paz,Sabrina (1448) - Zelner,Zoe (1746) [D61]
First Florida State Women's Championship Boca Raton, Florida, United S (5.2), 05.02.2023
[Tillis]

[Both young women are in a must win situation in this game to reach 4/5 and tie with Sophie Li (4/5) who finished the tournament quickly with a move 10 draw against Amelia. Much is on the line as the winner will likely be the Haring representative for Florida.]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 a6 The Janowski Variation of the Queen's Gambit!]



5.Bg5 Be7 [Sadness filled the annotator's heart when he saw this move live.]

[5...dxc4 After writing a text for Chessable on the Janowski I must mention my favorite variation from the Aggressive Queen's Gambit Declined: 6.e3 b5 7.a4 c6 8.axb5 cxb5 9.Nxb5 axb5 10.Rxa8 Bb7 11.Ra1 Bb4+ 12.Nd2 e5 13.Be2 Qd5 Black is on the verge of winning by engine estimation following 0–1 (30) Satkar,C (2040)-Raja,R (2296) Mumbai 2018.]
6.e3 0–0 7.Qc2 Nbd7 8.h3 [8.cxd5 It is a good time to clarify the position. 8...exd5 9.Bd3 Re8 10.0–0 Nf8 Both sides have arguably accomplished their opening goals following 0–1 (37) Yuan,Q (2373) -Jones,G (2684) Chess.com INT 2021.]

8...dxc4 [Now, Black can gain a tempo and finish development without difficulty.]

9.Bxc4 b5 10.Bd3 h6 11.Bh4 Bb7 [11...c5 This is more forcing and likely a touch better.]

12.Bg3 Rc8 [12...c5 The move is prepared, strike! Following: 0–1 (100) Hemmat,A (1688)-Wan,K (2133) Toronto 2013.]

13.Qe2 c5 14.dxc5 Nxc5 [Black has a winning position, the game will get very interesting...]

15.Rd1 Qb6 16.0–0 b4 17.Nb1 Nxd3 18.Rxd3 a5 [The powerful threat of Ba6 can't be stopped.]

19.Qd2 Ba6 20.Ne5 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 Rfd8 22.Qe2 Qc5 [Black simply needs to simplify the win in order to earn the full-point. It has been said numerous times that the hardest thing to do is to win a won game.]

23.a3 Qc2 24.Qa6 [Good technique by White, keep the tension! Do not make life easy for the opponent.]

24...Rd1 25.Qxc8+ Qxc8 26.Rxd1 [Though Black is still winning the game has some complications which Zoe navigates quite well.]

26...Qc2 27.Rf1 Ne4 [Black will continue to press and force trades, good technique.]

28.Bh2 Bf6 29.axb4 axb4 [The pawn keeps the b1–knight out of the game.]

30.f3 Qxb2 31.Nc4 Qb3 32.fxe4 Qxc4 33.e5 Be7 34.Bg3 Bc5 [Pile up on weaknesses and keep the opponent's pieces uncoordinated.]

35.Bf2 Qe4 36.Nd2 Qxe5 37.Nf3 Qc3 38.e4 Bxf2+ 39.Rxf2 b3 [The outside passed pawn can't easily be stopped.]

40.Nd2 Qc1+ 41.Kh2 b2 [We will end the game here with a clear win to follow for Black.]

0–1

(163) Alice Wu - Amelia Hernandez [B50]
Round 4: Alice Wu - Amelia Hernandez lichess.org, 05.02.2023
[Tillis]

1.e4 c5 [I was very impressed by Amelia's technique in this game against Alice who has a reputation of being quite hard to defeat in solid positions like the Alapin seen in this game.]

2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 [[#] 2...d6 in the Sicilian provides more aggressive options against the Alapin compared to other move orders.]

4.Be2 g6 [4...Nxe4 5.Qa4+ Don't fall for the trap!]

5.0–0 Bg7 6.Re1 0–0 [Both players have followed the mainline thus far.]

7.d3 [7.Bf1 This continues the mainline and is the most flexible move compared to the main game. White reserves the option to slam the center with the d-pawn. 7...e5 8.d4 Follows 0–1 (51) Deev,A (2390)-Matinian,N (2425) Chess.com INT 2022.]

7...Nc6 8.Nbd2 e5 [By engine estimation Black already has a small plus.]

9.Bf1 d5 [Black angles to reach a colors reversed Old Indian.]

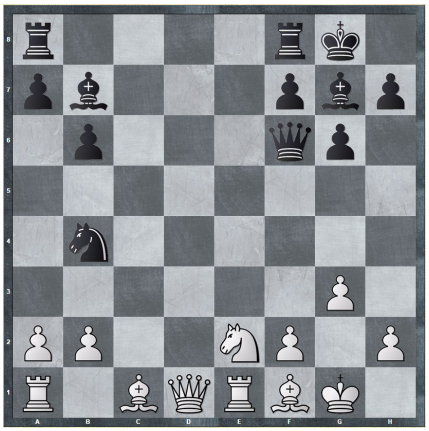
10.exd5 [10.b4 It is difficult to consider moves that go against the structure but this is best here. 10...cxb4 11.cxb4 Nxb4 12.Bb2 For the price of a pawn White has completed development and has some initiative.]

10...Nxd5 11.Nb3 b6 12.d4 cxd4 13.cxd4 exd4 [13...Bg4 A strong alternative following: 0–1 (32) Guerrero Zambrano,J (2046)-Barbosa,E (2343) Duran 2011.]

14.Nbxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Bb7 16.g3? [16.Nf3 White needs to hunker down and solidify the position.]

16...Qf6 17.Ne2 [White is lacking development and there is no clear way to get out of the bind.]

17...Nb4



[17...Rfd8 18.Bg2 Nf4 19.Bxf4 Rxd1 20.Raxd1 Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Qxb2 22.Rd2 Qf6 23.Nd4 Rc8 24.Nf3]

18.Bg2 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 Qc6+ 20.Kg1 Nc2 [Black has a decisive edge.]

21.Rb1 Nxe1 [When up material, simplify the win. The rest is a matter of technique.]

22.Qxe1 Rfe8 23.Be3 Rac8 24.Rc1 Qf3 25.Rxc8 Rxc8 26.Nd4 Bxd4 27.Bxd4 Rd8 [Excellent play by our 2023 Florida State Women's Champion!]

0–1

(165) Vladlena Ciubara - Sophie Li [C54]
Round 4: Vladlena Ciubara - Sophie Li lichess.org, 05.02.2023

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.e5 d5 7.Bb5 Ne4 8.b4 Bb6 9.Nxd4 Bd7 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.0–0 0–0 12.Be3 Re8 13.f3 Ng5 14.Qc1 Ne6 15.f4 Qe7 16.a3 c5 17.Nf5 Qf8 18.Rd1 Nxf4 19.Nh6+ gxh6 20.Bxf4 cxb4+ 21.Kh1 Qe7 22.cxb4 c6 23.Nc3 Bc7 24.Nxd5 cxd5 25.Qxc7 Be6 26.Qc3 Qh4 27.Rd4 Rac8 28.Qd2 Rc4 29.Rxc4 dxc4 30.Bxh6 Rd8 31.Qe3 Rd3 32.Qg5+ Qxg5 33.Bxg5 c3 34.Rc1 Bb3 35.Kg1 c2 36.Kf2 Ba4 37.Be3 a6 38.Ra1 Rb3 39.Rc1 Rxa3 40.Ke2 Rb3 41.Kd2 Rxb4 42.Rxc2 Bxc2 43.Kxc2 Re4 44.Kd3 Rxe5 45.Bd4 Rd5 46.Ke4 Rd8 47.Bc3 Kf8 48.g4 Ke7 49.g5 Ke6 50.h4 Rc8 51.Ba5 Rc4+ 52.Kf3 Rxh4 53.Bd2 Kf5 54.Kg3 Rg4+ 55.Kf3 Rxg5

0–1

FLORIDA'S TOP PLAYERS
("Top 100" Current Player Lists)

Players from National Top 100 lists	age	rating
Kumar, Nikhil	18	2442
Ngo, Bach	14	2413
Chakrabarti, Brejesh	12	2368
Venkat, Raghav	18	2362
De La Colina, Nicolas Alejandro	17	2277
Kumar, Naman	16	2205
Gao, Marvin	14	2196
Stone, Vincent William	17	2182
Chen, Benjamin Lj	18	2164
Wu, William	14	2142
Hernandez, Ronald	15	2137
Gospodinov, Antony	16	2134
Shukla, Aniket	14	2131
Guan, Michael Xukun	14	2105
Overlingas, Akeras	10	2092
Pothuri, Abhiram Sai	13	2091
Sattaru, Sritej Sai	13	2091
Shen, Jason(Haohan)	16	2074
Ligotti, John Joseph	16	2056
Drum, Robert David	17	2031
Nair, Advait	14	2028
etlyaev, Aleks	16	2017
Farragut, Cannon	12	2017
Ziegler, Nate	13	1997
Lang, Jayden	15	1993
Reddy, Satvik	18	1991
Kurbanov, Abror	17	1987
Amaya, Brayan Angel	17	1987
Patel, Arav	14	1969
Bynum, Jacorey	15	1958
Yang, Maxwell Z	10	1935
Lopez-Naranjo, Ubaldo	14	1927
Suresh, Akshat	14	1914
Roy, Ayush	11	1802
Datta, Riyaan	11	1781
Mishra, Om	12	1780
Sha, Yi	8	1729
Li, Sophie	9	1715
Jani, Aakash	8	1686
Muneepeerakul, Analaya	11	1640
Ratliff, Ryan	9	1580
Alexander, Damian	9	1516
Wu, Winston	8	1469
Thomas, Henry	9	1460
Zang, Flynn	9	1436
Sha, Rui	9	1423
Mulay, Vivan Prakash	8	1421
Kumar, Ishir	9	1380
Yang, Grace Siqi	9	1373
Luini, Lucio	8	1357
Liu, Richard	9	1322
Saha, Tanisha	8	1229
Chen, Celine	7	1195
Baumstark, Addison	8	1182
Holcomb, Mihai	6	985

GIRLS

Shama Yisrael	19	2071
Alice Wu	14	1806
Sisira S Yerrajennu	15	1799
Jolie Huang	13	1792
Zoe Zelner	18	1746
Priya Anna Gutta	18	1726
Sophie Li	9	1715
Aarna Nitin Warekar	13	1628
Sofia Ferrer	18	1589
Chloe Min	16	1581
Maya Behura	15	1566
Elena Anastasia	12	1524
Shalam Yisrael	17	1487
Hannah Ciupe	17	1469
Amelie Phung	15	1447
Grace Siqi Yang	9	1373
Scarlett Asselta	10	1370
Alison Francis Solik	13	1352
Varshini Venkat	15	1299

SENIORS (60+)

ALEXANDER ZELNER	62	2344
DOUG R MCCLINTOCK	69	2288
PAUL H FIELDS	66	2264
RASHID ZIATDINOV	63	2257
STEVEN ANDREWS	64	2221
STEPHEN STOYKO	74	2215

WOMEN (CURRENT MEMBERS ACTIVE)

BAHAR HALLAYEVA	2293
WFM AMELIA HERNANDEZ	2101
JESSICA SHOR REGAM	2076
SHAMA YISRAEL	2071
WFM VLADLENA CIUBARA	2069
ALICE WU	1817
DR. VARINIA CABRERA	1814
SISIRA S YERRAJENNU	1799

TOP BLITZ

GM Fabiano Caruana	2881
GM Julio Becerra	2645
Alex Barnett	2510

TOP QC

GM Fabiano Caruana	2655
GM Julio Becerra	2544
Renier Gonzalez	2513

CORRESPONDENCE

KEITH RODRIQUEZ	**2366**
BORIS RATNER	**2282**
PAUL B OTT	**2179**
ALLEN WOOLLEN	**2079**
LINDA DECHAINE	**1706**

OVERALL ACTIVE (2/2023)

GM FABIANO CARUANA	2835
IM WILLIAM HERNANDEZ-GONZALEZ	2591
IM ARNOALDO FERNANDEZ DE LA VARA	2508
GM JULIO J BECERRA	2507
GM MR. DANIEL FERNANDEZ	2500
GM RENIER GONZALEZ	2472
FM JORGE LEON OQUENDO	2462
IM NIKHIL KUMAR	2442
ROBERT M PEREZ	2441
IM SAUDIN ROBOVIC	2412
FM BACH NGO	2409
FM EIGEN WANG	2394
IM YUNIER LEYVA RIVERA	2382
FM BREJESH CHAKRABARTI	2368
RAGHAV VENKAT	2367
FM FERNANDO LARRUA	2367
FM COREY BRYAN ACOR	2360
FM ALEXANDER ZELNER	2344
FM DALTON PERRINE	2331
FM MAXIMO CABRERA	2329
ALBERTO HERNANDEZ	2314
SCOTT RAMER	2300
FM DOUG R MCCLINTOCK	2288
FM RENZO GUTIERREZ	2288
LEE J PHELPS	2286
NICOLAS ALEJANDRO DE LA COLINA	2281
FM ARNALDO FERRAGUT	2275
FM JEAN MARCO CRUZ	2266
FM CESAR VALIDO BOUZA	2262
NAT KELLEHER	2258
PEDRO HERNANDEZ-PEREZ	2256
OSVALDO PENO CABRERA	2253
NM BRYAN TILLIS	2250
GM RASHID ZIATDINOV	2256
NICKOLAS ARTHUR MOORE	2245
JACOB CHEN	2245
BRITT RYERSON	2241
FM ROBERTO ALVAREZ FERREIRO	2257
FM JONATHAN DAVID SARFATI	2234
IM PEDRO RODRIGUEZ RIVERA	2222
MEL GOSS	2221
CM ANTONIO ARENCIBIA	2220
CARLOS GASTON ANDRETTA	2234
RYAN EDWARD HAMLEY	2216
NAMAN KUMAR	2205
FM WALDO SERRANO	2204
SEBASTIAN ZONTEK	2202

Brush with Fame:
Facing Garry Kasparov
By NM Bryan Tillis

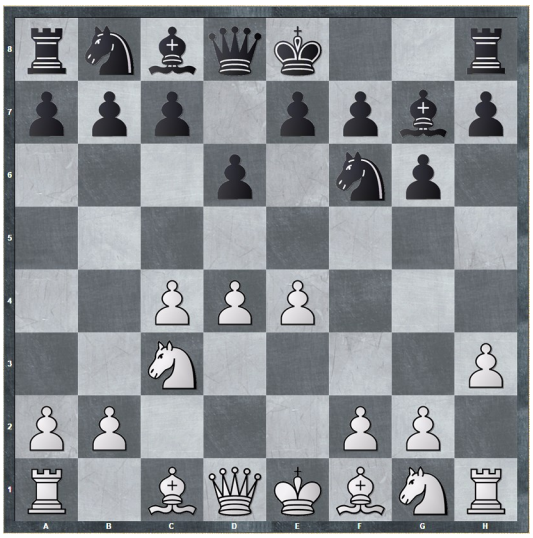
From 1984 until his retirement in 2005, Kasparov was ranked world No. 1 for a record 255 months with a peak rating of 2851. He was the youngest ever undisputed World Chess Champion in 1985 at age 22 and held the Classical World Championship title until 2000. Despite losing the title, he continued winning tournaments and was the world's highest-rated player when he retired from professional chess in 2005.

As I began playing chess in 2003, Kasparov was finishing his dominant career. I have very fond memories of watching the commentary of the elite events and he typically won everything. I was given the opportunity to play against this legend of chess (arguably the greatest of all time). This is easily the highlight of my chess year in 2022 and I would like to share the game with you. I would strongly encourage the readers to send in a story to the editor with a game that you have played against a legend of chess.

I was invited to this small, unadvertised simul held in downtown West Palm Beach and I can honestly say Garry is still intimidating and can still compete at a high level. Hopefully, you enjoy the lesson that I received in the King's Indian Defense!

(154) Kasparov,Garry (2802) - Tillis,Bryan (2250) [E71]
Simul, 14.12.2022
[nmbti]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 [Why not go after one of the greatest players of all time in an opening that he made countless contributions to?]



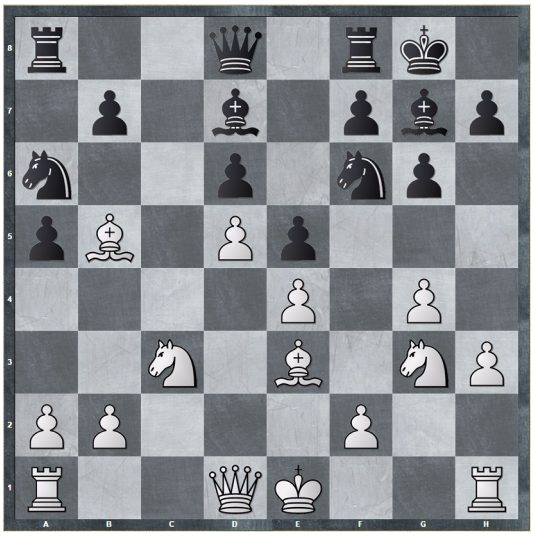
5.h3 [[#] The Makagonov Variation is a sidelines that recently has been brought back into the spotlight with many new texts on the subject.]

5...0–0 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 a5 [A natural move but I had a momentary lapse in preparation which placed me in a miserable situation quite quickly.]

[7...Na6 This is most precise as it will force a defensive move. 8.g4 Nc5 Both knights attack the e-pawn forcing White to spend a tempo on defense compared to the main game where White achieves an ideal position. 9.f3 a5 10.Qd2 c6 With the standard f -pawn break in question Black needs to initiate counterplay on the other wing. 11.Nge2 a4 12.Ng3 h5 13.Rg1 cxd5 14.cxd5 h4 15.Nh1 Bd7 16.Nf2 Qa5 Following 0–1 (51) Koelle,T (2380)-Lagarde,M (2638) Sousse 2021.]

8.g4 Na6 9.Nge2 c6 [9...Nc5 10.Ng3 White was never required to expend a tempo on f3 reaching an ideal position.]

10.Ng3 cxd5 11.cxd5 Bd7 12.Bb5 [[#] It was at this time after Kasparov had spent a few minutes and played this move I had made the realization that I had a technically lost position. I was in awe of my opponent as he corkscrewed the piece into the square. The rest of the game is fine technique after solid preparation by White.]



12...Ne8 [12...Nc5 13.Bxd7 Qxd7 14.a4 White has a stable plus forever.]

13.Bxd7 Qxd7 14.Na4 [Everything has gone wrong.]

14...Qb5 15.Nb6 Rd8 [Black has no flexibility and the pieces all lack good squares.]

16.Qe2 Qb4+ 17.Qd2 Qxd2+ [17...Nc5 The other option does not help matters. 18.Qxb4 axb4 19.Kd2 Bf6 20.Rhc1 White has a winning position.]

18.Kxd2 Nec7 19.a4 Nc5 20.Ra3 [Flexible and good, taking no risks.]

20...Bf6 21.h4 Be7 22.g5 f6 23.gxf6 Bxf6 24.h5 Rf7 25.Nc4 b5 26.Nxd6 [Liquidating in Kasparov fashion.]

26...Rxd6 27.Bxc5 Rdd7 28.hxg6 hxg6 29.axb5 Nxb5 30.Rxa5 Nc7 31.Ke2 Bg5 [I finally have activity but the extra material makes life easy for the former world champion. The rest is a matter of technique.]

32.b4 Kg7 33.b5 Ne8 34.b6 Bf4 35.Rg1 Bxg3 36.Rxg3 Nf6 37.Re3 Ng4 38.Rea3 Nf6 39.f3 [I had a fantastic experience playing against a legend of chess.]

1–0

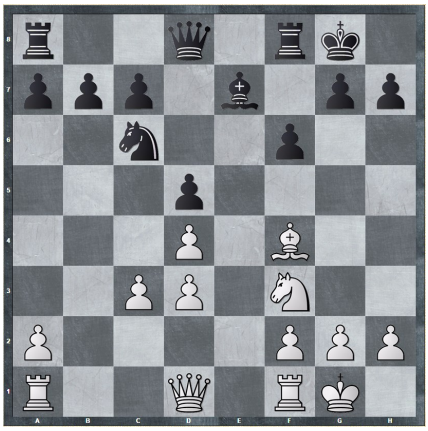
(170) Ryan,Ratliff (1580) - Henry,Thomas [C42]
Jacksonville Scholastic Champ 2023, 11.02.2023
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 [A playable move that creates a mobile central pawn mass and secures a middle game with more space as in the game Escobar - Coca, Medellin 2016 (see below)]

6.bxc3 [6.dxc3 The capture with the d pawns gives white a safe king in the middlegame (if an opposite side castling situation arrives) and play along the central files. The following game illustrates white's exploitation of the pawn structure and central files after 6.dxc3. 6...Be7 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Be6 9.0–0–0 Qd7 10.b3 Bf6 11.h3 0–0–0 12.g4 h6 13.Bg2 Kb8 14.Rhe1 Rhe8 15.Kb2 1–0 (54) Carlsen,M (2844)-Hou,Y (2673) Wijk aan Zee 2016]

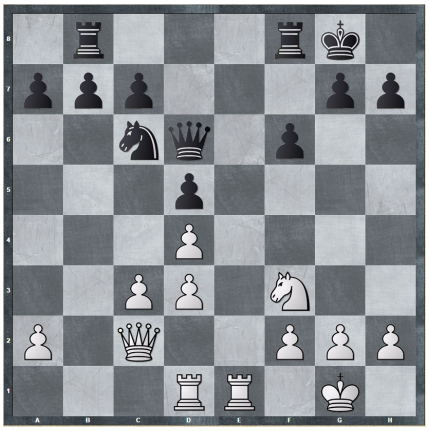
6...Be7 7.Bc4 [7.d4 0–0 8.Bd3 Re8 9.0–0 Nd7 10.c4 Nf8 11.h3 Bf6 12.c3 Bd7 13.Qc2 Bc6 14.d5 1/2–1/2 (62) Escobar Medina,A (2297)-Coca Cubillos,J (2089) Medellin 2016]

7...0–0 8.0–0 Nc6 9.d4 Bf5 10.Bf4 d5 11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.cxd3 f6 [[#]]



13.Qb3 [13.Rb1 This is an alternative move to try to create light square weaknesses on the queenside after b6. This threat wins a tempo to double the rooks on the e file and was use by Anand (2817) Vs kasimdzhanov (2687), 2011. The game ended in a draw after an interesting middlegame. 13...Rb8 14.Re1 Qd7 15.Rb2 Rf7 16.Rbe2]

13...Rb8 14.Rad1 Na5 15.Qc2 Bd6 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.Rfe1 Nc6 [[#] After the exchanges black equalizes and white has not time to use the e file.



18.Re2 [18.Re3 Rfe8 19.Rde1 Kf8=]

18...Rfe8 19.Rde1 Re7 20.Rxe7 Nxe7 21.Qe2 Ng6 22.g3 Kf7 23.a4 Qc6 24.Qc2 Re8 25.Rxe8 Qxe8 26.Qb3 [26.c4 Qc6 27.Qb3 Transposes to the game.]

26...Qc6 [26...Ne7 This alternative is similar to 26...Qc6, but has the potential to create a massive simplification to reach a draw if that is the result black is looking for. 27.Qxb7 Qxa4 28.Qxc7 Qd1+ 29.Kg2 Qxd3 30.Qxa7 Qxc3]

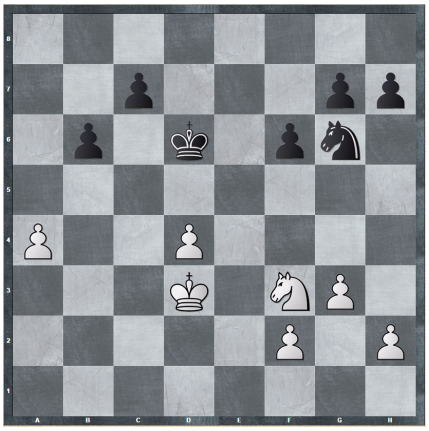
27.c4 dxc4 28.dxc4 b6 29.c5+ Kf8 30.cxb6 Qxb6 [30...axb6 31.Kf1 Ke7 32.Ke2 Kd6 33.Kd3]

31.Qxb6 axb6 [31...cxb6 This capture way from the center creates a queenside pawn majority 2 versus one that can be decisive in an endgame as in the game Brynell (2495) vs Berg (2612), 2010. 32.Kf1 Ke7 33.Ke2 Kd6 34.Kd3 a6 Black's better pawn structure gives him a small and stable advantage.]

32.Kf1 Ke7 33.Ke2 Kd6 34.Kd3 [[#] Black has the better pawn structure and can look forward to attack the weak white pawns on a4 and d4. However, the pawn on a4 can only be attacked with a knight on c5, b6 or c3 and at this stage of the game all three squares are unavailable. In a short time control game this type of pawn and knight endgames are difficult to play, because the many opportunities that each knight creates after each move.]

34...c5 [34...Ne7 35.Kc4 c6 36.Nd2 Nc8]

35.dxc5+ Kxc5 36.Kc3 Ne7 37.Kb3 Nc6 38.Kc3 Na5 39.Nd4 Kd5 40.Nf5 g6 41.Ne3+ Kc6 42.Ng4 f5 43.Ne5+ Kd5 44.Nd7 Kc6 45.Ne5+ Kd6 46.Nd3 Nb7 47.Kb4 Kc7 48.Nf4 Kd6 49.Kb5 Nc5 [[#]]



50.a5 bxa5 51.Kxa5 Ne6 52.Nd3 Kd5 53.Kb4 Ke4 54.Kc3 h6 [54...Kf3 55.Kd2 Kg2 56.h4]

55.Kd2 Nd4 56.Nf4 g5 57.Ne2 Kf3 [At this point black has 15 seconds on his clock and instead of winning the h2 pawn he loses the knight and the game.]

[57...Nf3+ 58.Kd1 Nxh2]

58.Nxd4+ Kxf2 59.Nxf5 Kg2 60.Nxh6

1–0

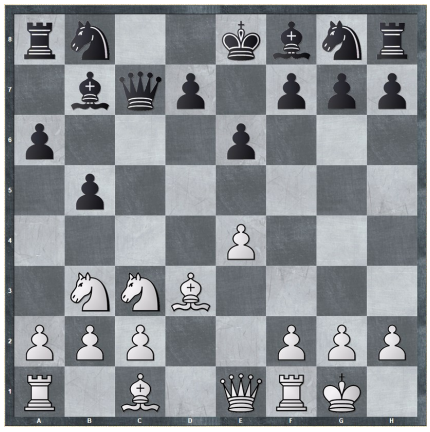
(169) Nikola,Mitkov (2535) - Vladimir,Georgiev (2500) [B43]
8th Annual Gulf Coast 2023
lichess.org, 08.01.2023
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 [A move order that bothers Najdorf players, because d6 may not fit if white decides not to play an open Sicilian.]

2...e6 3.Nf3 a6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 [The Sicilian Kan is a flexible option to play with the black pieces. One of the main values of playing the Kan in open tournaments is that a player can choose to go for sharp or positional middlegames games according to the needs of the tournament. For example, after 5.Bd3 Black can go for 5…b5 or 5…Bc5 with sharp play or 5…Nc6 taking the game to the Taimanov variation, more likely followed by Nge7. However, using 4...a6 to attain a pure Sicilian Taimanov gives white additional options. The curious reader can find all the nuances and move transpositions out of the Paulsen/Taimanov system in the book The Taimanov Sicilian by Graham Burgess (Gambit Publications)]

5...b5 6.Bd3 Bb7 7.0–0 Qb6 8.Nb3 Qc7 [Mitkov plays this position in the same way than eleven year ago, against J.Colas at the 2012 World Open.]

9.Qe1 [[#] Cunning play by white. If black continues with 9...b4 then white can play with a Bf4 instead of f4 an win a tempo on the black queen(no check after Qb6) see variation below.]

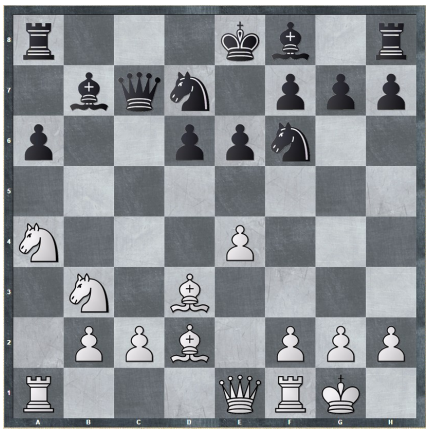


[9.Be3 b4? *(9...Nf6*= Black gets play against e4.*)* 10.Na4 Nf6 11.Nb6]

9...d6?! [Black deviates from Nf6 and gets hit with a4.]

[9...b4 10.Ne2 Nf6 11.Bf4 Qb6²; 9...Nf6 10.Bd2 b4 11.Nd1 Nc6 12.f4 a5 13.Nf2 a4³ 1/2–1/2 (53) Mitkov,N (2461)-Taghizadeh,R (2346) Las Vegas 2017]

10.Bd2 Nf6 11.a4 bxa4 12.Nxa4 Nbd7 [12...Nc6 13.Na5 Be7 14.Nxb7 Qxb7 15.f4 e5 16.Bc3 exf4 17.Rxf4 0 –0 [#] White gets a solid grip on the light squares after the black bishop on b7 is exchanged. 18.Rf5 1–0 (68) Mitkov,N (2527)-Colas, J (2126) Philadelphia 2012]



13.Na5 Be7 14.Nxb7 Qxb7 15.f4 [Black is at crossroads here. One option is to play the standard Sicilian pawn break d5 and endure a weak pawn on a6 or play e5 to destroy white's central pawn duo and decrease the protection of his light squares (see variations above)]

15...g6 [Black decides to protect f5 to lessen the effect on the light squares after e6–e5]

[15...d5 16.exd5 Qxd5; 15...e5 16.Nc3 Taking the b2 pawn ends up badly for white after Nb5 because the black queen is trapped. 16...exf4]

16.Qe2 0–0 17.c4 [White stops d6–d5 and enjoys an spatial advantage and black is going to maneuver his pieces to effective squares in Hedgehog fashion.]

17...Rab8 18.Kh1 [18.b4 Nh5 19.Rab1 e5 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.c5 Nf4]

18...Nh5 19.b4 e5 20.c5 Ra8 [?]

[20...Nxf4 Tempo move that saves the day for black after Bxf4 the Black queen and rook target the weak b4. Black does not have this resource after Ra8. 21.Bxf4 exf4 22.Bxa6 f3 23.Rxf3 Qa8= [#] The chess engine evaluate this position as equal, yet with some many pieces on the board, opposite color bishops, the black knight with access to e5 and white queenside pass pawns, makes this position difficult to evaluate. I will go with chances for both sides. It comes down to who handles all the imbalances in the position better.; 20...dxc5 Black can get closer to equality with this series of exchanges and the opposite color bishops. Although white retains a pass pawn. 21.Bxa6 Qc7 22.Nxc5 Nxc5 23.bxc5 Nxf4 24.Bxf4 exf4]

21.Nc3 Nxf4 [Passive defense of the a6 pawn does not work. 21...Nb8 22.fxe5 dxe5 23.Nd5]

22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Nd5 [Just in time to defend the b4 pawn with tempo on the black bishop. White secures the b4 pawn and black has no counterplay. The two GMs played according to the pawn structure, the plan and the counter-plan. It is also instructive to see how the two masters put pressure

on the weaknesses of the opponent to draw up their plans.]

23...Rfe8 24.Bxa6 Rxa6 25.Qxa6 Qxa6 26.Rxa6 dxc5 27.Ra7 [Black loses a minor piece.]

1–0

(168) Ray Kaufman (2286) - Nikola Mitkov (2535) [D31]
8TH ANNUAL GULF COAST NEW YEAR'S OPEN lichess.org (4), 07.01.2023
[Ararat,Miguel]

1.d4 [The key game in Kaufman path to win the tournament. This game illustrates several principles of chess as well as the practical side of the game. Players from different levels can get valuable insights about a chess game such as: 1.Nurturing an opening advantage. 2.Using the pawn structure to develop a plan in the middlegame. 3.Holding up a worse position and the creation of practical chances. 4.Use your opponent's move to find tactics you missed a move ago that still working to some degree.]

1...d5 2.c4 [2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nc3 c6 6.Qc2 Na6 7.a3 Nc7 8.Bg5 g6 9.e3 Bf5 10.Bd3 Bxd3 11.Qxd3 Be7 12.0–0 0–0 13.b4 Ne4 14.Bf4 Nxc3 15.Qxc3 Bd6 16.Bxd6 Nb5 17.Qb3 Nxd6 0–1 (62) Portisch,L (2600)-Kasparov,G (2775) Skelleftea 1989]

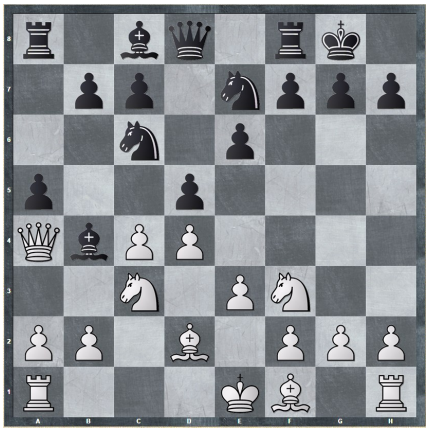
2...e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 [A move design to bother opponents with a narrow opening repertoire, because black can transpose to the Nimzoindian or stay in Queens Gambit decline territory. The practical battle in this game is on.]

4.Qa4+ [White forces black to block his c pawn and decides the type of middlegame he wants to play. In contrast, a move like 4.e3 allows the transposition to Nimzoindian type position where black can lose quickly as in the Kasporov - Polgar game below.]

[4.e3 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nf6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.f3 c4 9.Ne2 Nc6 10.g4 h6 11.Bg2 Na5 12.0–0 Nb3 13.Ra2 0–0 14.Ng3 Bd7 15.Qe1 Re8 16.e4 dxe4 17.fxe4 Nxg4 18.Bf4 Qh4 19.h3 Nf6 20.e5 Rad8 21.Qf2 Nh5 22.Bxh6 Re7 23.Nf5 Qxf2+ 24.Rfxf2 Re6 25.Be3 Bc6 26.Bf1 f6 27.Bxc4 Bd5 28.Be2 fxe5 29.Bxh5 exd4 30.Bg5 Rd7 31.Rae2 Be4 32.Nxd4 1–0 (32) Kasparov,G (2820)-Polgar,J (2670) Tilburg 1997]

4...Nc6 5.e3 Nge7 6.Bd2 0–0 7.Nf3 [7.Nge2? does not work here because black can take the pawn on c4. 7...dxc4 8.Ng3 Bd7]

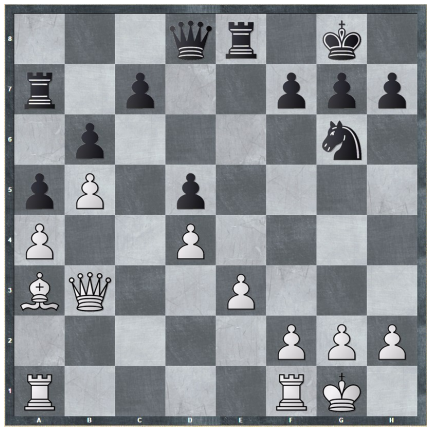
7...a5 [7...h6!? [#] is Theoretical novelty I founded while analyzing this game. it offers black a few extra options if he is ok holding the exchange of his light square bishop. 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 b6 10.b4 Bd7 11.b5 Nb8 12.Bd3 c6²]



8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 b6 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Bd3 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Rxa6 13.b4 Ra8 14.b5 Na7 15.Qb3 Nac8 16.a4 [The opening battle left black with a backward pawn on a semi open file and white is better. Importantly, white plays against a static weakness without any counterplay by black.]

16...Nd6= [[#] A defensive idea traced back to the 1980's and worth to remember in your games. See game Portisch - Kasparov, 1989 cited at the beginning of this game.]

17.0–0 Nc4 18.Nd2 Nxd2 19.Bxd2 Ra7 20.Bc1 Re8 21.Ba3 Ng6 [21...Nf5 is more flexible than Ng6 because it reduces white's options. Nf5 stops whites plan with f3 and forces him to go for a Rac1. If white goes for play against the c7 pawn then black creates pressure on the kingside as follows. 22.Rac1 Nh4 23.Qd1 Qg5 24.g3 Nf5 25.Qf3 Re4



22.f3 [White takes control of the e4 square, but creates a weak pawn on e3 that black will target to create counterplay. Since both players have a weak pawn and the unbalance knight versus bishop is not relevant yet, the game is equal.]

[22.Rac1 White can play against the backward c pawn, yet Mitkov will get counter play against the white king. In this variation, the computer assesses it as best for white, but g2–g3 movement is compulsive and many clear squares are weak in the white kingside. The white bishop cannot patch the weakness of the light around Kaufman's king. I definitely prefer Kaufman 22.f3 move, although the chess engine is not in agreement. 22...Qg5 23.Qd1 Nh4 24.g3 Re6°]

22...Re6 [22...Ra8 Black can not stop e3–e4, but can deplay his forces to neutralize white's gaining central control. 23.Rae1 Qd7 24.Kh1 h6]

23.Rae1 Re8 24.Kh1 [A well timed prophylactic move.]

[24.Kf2 Ra8=]

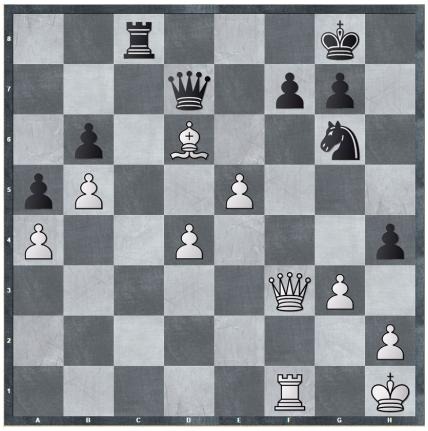
24...Ra8 25.e4 Nf4 26.g3 [26.Bc1 Ne6 White has this option to remove the black knight from f4. However Kaufman wants to keep open the possibility of attacking black queenside pawns with the bishop if the opportunity comes.]

26...Ne6 27.exd5 Nf8 28.Re4 Qd7 29.Rfe1 Ng6 30.Qc4 Rxe4 31.fxe4 Qg4 [White central strategy worked an his mobile central pawn mass give him a decisive advantage.]

32.Qe2+– Qd7 33.Qf3 Re8 34.e5 h5!? [Black plays the only "uno reverse move" in a lost position.]

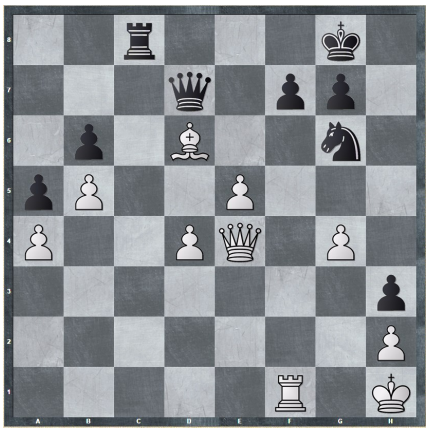
35.d6 cxd6 36.Bxd6 [36.Qc6 This move wins a valuable tempo on the undefended black queen. 36...Qxc6+ 37.bxc6 dxe5 38.d5 Kaufman's central passed pawn are un stoppable.]

36...Rc8 37.Rf1 h4 [[#] This move creates a lot of problems for the white king and the position is equal! Chess is such a beautiful game that even the more hopeless position contain a grain of opportunity if you look hard enough.]



38.g4 Rc4 39.Qa8+ Rc8 40.Qf3 Rc4 41.Qa8+ Rc8 42.Qd5? [42.Qe4 Rc4 43.Qa8+=]
42...h3 [Closes the knot around white's king.]

43.Qe4 [[#] White post his queen on a strong central square, unfortunately this strategic desiderable move fails tactically to Nf4. The best example of a trojan horse! If white captures the knight with queen or rook, checkmate follows after Qb7 and Rc1 respectively. If the knight remains on the board the g4 falls and the white king lack pawn cover. It is interesting to note that white is playing "by the book with a centralized queen on light squares to complement his dark square bishop. Yet, the tactics do not work on his favor.]



43...Rc4µ [43...Nf4! Knights are tricky pieces and particularly lethal when combined with a queen. I showed the position to my students to have a sense of how difficult is to find Nf4. The beginners played Qxg4 and the more advanced students played and only one student tried to decoy the queen from the long diagonal to give a check on the long diagonal. Two scenarios are possible. One scenario is that Mitkov made his mind to gets counterplay attacking the a4 and d4 pawns, instead of the white king. Yet he played h5–h4–h3 to reach the white king. Scenario two, black was low on time. 44.Rxf4 *(44.Qxf4 Qb7+ 45.Kg1 Qg2#; 44.Ba3* [#] *44...Qxg4 45.Rg1 Qe6 46.Qxf4 Qd5+ 47.Qe4 Qxe4+ 48.Rg2 Qxg2#)* 44...Rc1+]

44.Rg1? [44.Kg1 Qe6 45.Rf3 Nh4 46.Re3=]

44...Rxd4–+ [Black is winning thanks to his h5–h4–h3 idea from a losing position ten or so moves ago. This an example of creating practical chances in bad positions.]

45.Qc6 [45.Qxd4 Qb7+ and black mates.]

45...Qe6 46.Bc7 Qa2 [46...Qxc6+ 47.bxc6 Rc4 and black advantage is gone!; 46...Qb3 47.e6 Rd5 Creates a matting threat on the long diagonal. 48.exf7+ Kxf7]

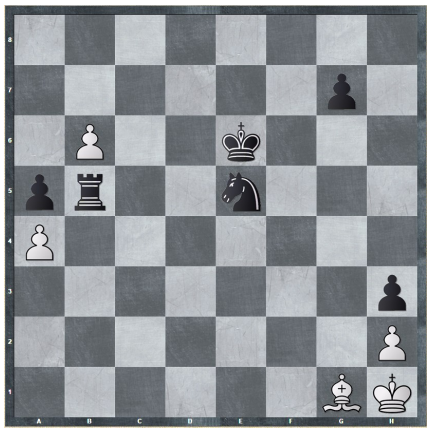
47.e6 fxe6 48.Re1 Rxg4? [This move take a pawn and defends the knight on g6, but allows the exchange of queens. Since white's king is weak the exchange of queen is a relief to the white monarch.]

[48...Qd2; 48...Qe2 49.Rxe2 Rd1+ mates]

49.Qxe6+ Qxe6 50.Rxe6 Rc4 51.Bxb6 Rc1+ 52.Bg1 Nf4 53.Re4? [53.Re5 Nd3 54.Rf5=]

53...Nd3–+ 54.Re2 Rb1 55.b6 Kf7 56.Rd2 Ne5 57.Rd5 Ke6 [57...Kf6™ Only move to keep the advantage. 58.Rb5 Rd1 59.b7 Nf3 Black checkmates white in 3 moves.]

58.Rb5 Rxb5 [[#] [58...Rd1 59.b7 Nf3 Since the black king is not on f3, white can sacrifice the rook to stop the checkmate an equalize the game. The difference between 57...Ke6 and 57...Kf6 was significant.]



59.axb5 Kd5 60.b7 Nd7 61.Be3 a4 62.Kg1 a3 63.Bc1 a2 64.Bb2 g6 65.Kf2 [The game is a draw, but white has one more trick under his sleeve to try to win the game and plays on.]

65...Kc5 66.Kg3 Kb6 67.Kxh3 Kxb7 68.Kg4 Nc5 69.Kg5 Nd3 70.Ba1 Ne1 71.Kxg6 Kb6 72.h4 Ng2 73.Kg5 Nxh4™ [Only move.]

[73...Kxb5?? 74.h5 Ne3 75.h6 and the white pawn promotes.]

74.Kxh4 [A very exciting and instructive game from beginning to end.]

½–½

Tips for Chess Improvement
Central RVP — Andy Rea

As an active senior, age 62, the readers may well think this article is oriented to other senior players- not so fast! The pieces, the rules, general principles, same for all players! I bring considerable experience, having played tournament chess since 1974, winning (includes ties) 63, to include 3 last year. To be certain, having attained NM status does not still prevent me from losing games- I am aware of both sides of results. My most recent events notwithstanding, there have been more success than fail- and please be assured I have a strong interest in playing better chess! Time to figure this out....

These steps may not be the most refined, and given space considerations, not comprehensive either. I do believe these will be helpful- and if you disagree, you are thinking independently, not exactly a terrible idea! Lets go!- Are you objective in your analyses? There are two sets of forces on the board,; missing or underestimating possibilities can be costly. The obvious observation is to always be wary of your opponent, regardless of rating and experience. This is true, but also be aware there are problems associated with underestimating the potential of your forces as well. Defense wins any number of contests, but at the chessboard one should be cognizant of the need for defense but always alert to apply pressure and convert to offense as quickly as Possible.

Easier said than done, of course! Good news though- it is not severely difficult to be aware of what each piece is doing, all the while being aware of all captures, checks, and mating threats, every move. Those one-move vacations are way risky! You can evaluate why a particular check is overrated, why a specific capture is not dangerous.... and what are the terms and conditions that could change to where said capture can become dangerous. A famous example being the famous Rubinstein win from Lodz 1907 against Rotlewi. As Black, Rubinstein could see Kh1 in grave danger if ...Bb7xe4+ could be enforced. Famous sacrifices ensue, only a Q and R.... and Black wins!

While evaluating moves, whether conditions are changing, please remember that the first good move you see might be best, but how can this be known if you are not examining other moves, other ideas, other plans? Plans are important- bad plans of course are not great, but learning from experience will help. Drifting without a plan, that is a waste of time. Its an equation, **FailToPlan = PlanToFail**... Another item to be aware of is just what eleme nts should be considered in analysis? From my experience, this list of 5 covers a lot of ground!- Material, King Safety, Space, Time, and Structure. The first two are reasonably self-explanatory; re Space this often proves true, that More Space becomes More Pressure. Make a mistake on offense, you can often regroup. Make a mistake on defense, you can often reset the pieces...

As for Time, that becomes the ever so elusive initiative, again applying pressure. One does not need to be a great Grandmaster to realize having a free move, an extra move, can be decisive. As for Structure, this can help identify targets and weaknesses, plan accordingly! As can be noted from my most recent tournament, playing haphazardly is a feeble recipe. It is a challenge, but staying alert every move, this can be done. With one additional observation that there is one non-chess item that will also prove beneficial, stamina! Not being a physician, a dietician, a professional athlete, I am not capable of strong advice here.... but it is well known that fatigue causes problems at the board, so finding legal ways to reduce said fatigue will help the cause!

This has been academic so far, but I will include 1 game to see how these tips can be incorporated into a closely contested game to demonstrate that application can prove feasible! -

US Open/ August2019 Rd8 Andy Rea (2058) - FM Cory Acor(2337)
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.00 00 6.c4 Nbd7 7.Nc3 e5 The players are striving to win, albeit by different means. It is nice to win fast, but not so simple! The players are developing pieces, safely castling, and fighting for space, especially in the center. Game on!...

8.de de 9.b3 Re8 10.Bb2 Can Black advance 10..e4!? Perhaps, but there is risk to conceding d4- 10...e4 11.Nd4 e3 12.f3 is not grand for Bg2 but e3 is a target. Black decides on a slower plan, seeing that the White position is not built for speed. *10...a6 11.Qc2 c6 12.Rad1 Qc7 13.Ng5* The central battle continues as White strives for Ne4-d6. It should not be shocking that Black is aware of this... and does not allow it!

13...Nf8 14.Nce4 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Bf5 (Diagram 1)
WHITE/ a2, b3, c4, e2, f2, g3, h2, Kg1, Qc2, Ne4, Rd1, Rf1, Bb2, Bg2 ;
BLACK/ a6, b7, c6, e5, f7, g6, h7, Kg8, Qc7, Nf8, Bg7, Bf5, Re8, a8

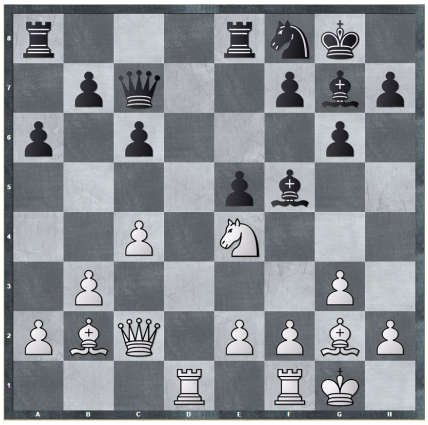


Diagram 1

The White pieces are developed, but generating precious little offense. For now the d-file is contested, Black is ready. Black has play vs d4, noting that e2-e3 does not help d3. It is manageable for White, but it is Black with more

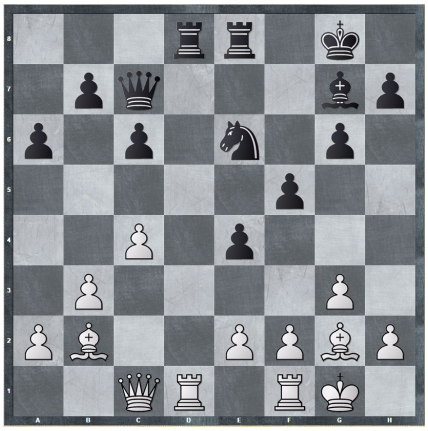


Diagram 2

space, running with the ball.... *16.Qc1 Rad8 17.Ba3 Bxe4 18.Bxe4* White wins the Bishop Pair, Black gains time and space! Well assessed that the White Bishops will not be cutting loose- and Nf8 has excellent prospects

18...Ne6 19.Bb2 f5 20.Bg2 e4 (Diagram 2)

WHITE/ a2, b3, c4, e2, f2, g3, h2, Kg1, Qc1, Bg2, Bb2, Rd1, Rf1 ;
BLACK/ a6, b7, c6, e4, f5, g4, h7, Kg8, Qc7, Ne6, Bg7, Re8, Rd8

The trend is favorable for Black- more importantly, he has more space! However, it is not all trash for White. Kg1 is safe, Black is not cruising on the d-file. Should Black launch K-side pawns, Kg8 will have more exposure- especially with Bg7 exchanged. Not exactly playing for advantage for White, but seeing as the alternatives are worse, especially just watching Black regroup for free, it is prudent to go with a bit of pain rather than a lot of pain. ***21.Bxg7 Qxg7 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Rd1 Rxd1+ 24.Qxd1 Qd4 25.Qc1*** Black does not get a free pass on d4 or d3, while ...e2-e3 looks good but also has some baggage. Kg1 stays safe, but Bg2 is struggling. Absent a passed pawn, or being able to conquer the Q-side, it is not such an easy win for win. (The computer might think otherwise, but the computer gets to see all and never gets tired, unlike our usual carbon opposition...)

25...Kf7 26.h4 Kg7 27.Bf1 h6 28.e3 d3 is not happy, neither is f3- but Be2 is still much better than g2. Black can try to further restrict with ...c6-c5 but that also has repercussions for the Black Knight. Black does not get ...Nd4, and Qd4 can stay on the d-file or the long diagonal, but not both... ***28...Qf6 29.Qd2 Nc5 30.Qb4 Qe7 31.Qc3+ Kh7 32.b4*** Bf1 is back to life, there is now some more two-way traffic. ***32...Nd7 33.Qd2 Qe6+ 34.Qc3 Qd6 35.c5 Qe7 36.Qd4 Ne5 37.Kg2 Kg7***

This looks strange, but it is still a play for advantage- Black will defend Ne5 with the King so that Qe7 can shift to offense! Also, in some variations, Kf6 will prevent Be6, thus helping b7. Keep tracking what the pieces are doing! *38.Bc4 Kf6 39.Bb3 Qd7 40.Qc3* With Ne5 pinned, Black is less able to open the h-file, and then hit with Qh3+ and ...Nf3#. ***40...Qd8 41.a3 Qd7 42.Qb2 g5 43.hg hg 44.Ba2 Qd3 45.Bg8 Qd1 46.Qa2*** Black is slower, unable to allow Qa2-e6+.

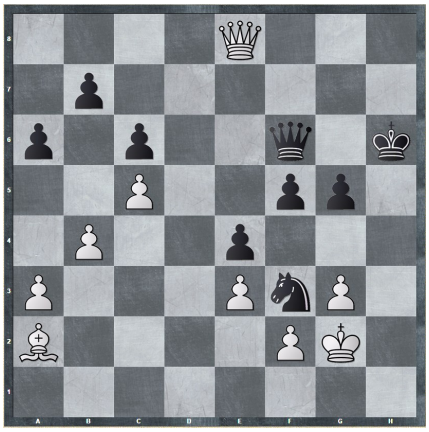


Diagram 3

46...Qd7 47.Qa1 Qe7 48.Ba2 Kg6 49.Qd4 Nf3 50.Qh8 Qf6?! Not that Black has been flawless, but this indicates either a shortage of objectivity or sense of danger. 50...g4 maintains pressure while keeping e4 intact. Apparently Black thought more was available....

51. Qe8+ Kg7 52.Qe6 Kg6 (Diagram 3)

WHITE/ a3, b4, c5, e3, f2, g3, Kg2, Qe6, Ba2 ;
BLACK/ a6, b7, c6, f5, e4, g5, Kg6, Qf6, Nf3

Its late, its messy, Black outrates me by nearly 300 points.... but, as always, its whats on the board that matters. White has withstood pressure, and now, at long last, there is a play for a real advantage. Its dangerous, but Black will have to prove able to stay equal -***53.g4! Kg7 54.gf Nh4+*** Yes, there are other options, but nothing clearly saving the day for Black... ***55.Kh3 Nxf5 56.Qxf6+ Kxf6 57.Kg4*** g5 or e4, Black cannot keep both. ***57...Ne7 58.Bb1 Ke5 59.Kxg5 Nd5 60.Bc2 a5*** Of course Black does not fold! ***61.ba Nc7 62.Kg6*** Black still has to cover e4 and b7. Kg6 proves to be quite offensive... ***62...Ne6 63.Kf7 Nc5 64.Ke7 Kd5 65.Kd8 (Diagram 4)***

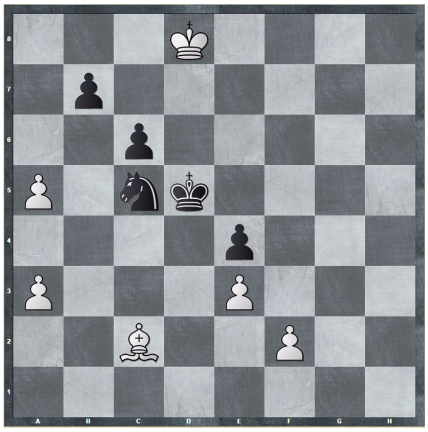


Diagram 4

WHITE/ a3, a5, e3, f2, Kd8, Nc5 ;
BLACK/ b7, c6, e4, Kd5, Nc5

Black is hard pressed to stop a5 if b7 disappears. Loss of e4 allows White two connected passed pawns on the K-side. The end is nigh... *65***...Kc4 66.Kc7 Kb5 67.Kd6 Kc4 68.Ke5*** Black barely has counterplay on the c-file, but it is quite slow- White hits both flanks. ***68...Nd3+ 69.Kxe4 Nxf2+ 70.Ke5 Kc3 71.Ba4 c5 72.Bc6 Kb3 73.Bxb7 Nd3+ 74.Kd6 c4 75.Bd5*** **1-0**

Play one game at a time, stay alert, keep reviewing plans, stay alert, look for advantage, add pressure, stay alert! Best wishes for your chess improvement!

Northeast Regional Report

By Ray Ratliff, NE RVP

The Chess Bug!

The chess bug is an infectious species and seems to be attracted to entire families. Throughout chess history, there are multiple examples of siblings with a case of "chessositus." For example, most people know GM Alexander Alekhine as the 4th Chess World Champion. Did you know he had an older brother, Alexei Alekhine? Alexei was a chess expert and I can only imagine the influence they had on each other during their chess journeys. More recently, the famous Polgar sisters took the chess world by storm and are still very active in promoting chess today. Even current World Champion Magnus Carlsen mentioned in an interview that the first thing that motivated him to take up chess as a child was the desire to beat his older sister, Ellen. Good thing he had that older sister to motivate him! I can't imagine a chess world without Magnus Carlsen in it.

I want to highlight some of our chess siblings here in Northeast Florida. They practice together, compete together, support one another, and in some cases, travel hours to tournaments together. All in the name of chess and fun! We are lucky to have such a thriving chess community and we have that chess bug to thank. Here are just some of the active cases of "chessositus" in NE Florida. We hope to see more and more cases as the chess bug continues to bite families throughout Florida.

Possible "chessositus" symptoms include but are not limited to:
Buying multiple chess books, playing chess all day, thinking about playing chess all day, travelling hundreds of miles to play chess, talking chess to everyone and even telling chess jokes. If you are experiencing any or all of these symptoms, please contact the Florida Chess Association to find the nearest treatment center (awesome chess club) near you.

You can find help here: ***https://www.floridachess.org/Florida-Chess-Clubs***

William and Andrew Wiest

Myra and Ryan Ratliff

Elliot and Adalyn Miller

Aanya and Agrim Kumar

Arav and Soham Patel

Aarna and Aanvi Warekar

Suraj, Meera, Aakash, and Sonam Jani

Joseph and Jonathan Cagle

Henry and Nora Thomas

South Regional Report

By Matthew Kolcz

Of the interesting clubs popping up throughout the area, we have one who has been setting up and running tournaments for many years now. Otis Wilson, Chief Tournament Director of the 954chess.com (954chess@gmail.com) club, has recently been hosting FIDE rated tournaments in Coral Springs. There aren't many FIDE rated tournaments to be found in Florida, but this event attracts many of the best players around. Each round is once a week on Mondays over 6 weeks, and the entry fee is only $125, free to GMs, IMs, FMs, WGMs, WIMs and WFMs. Check out their webpage (above) to get more details on how to register as they only allow the first 40 players! They also host USCF rated tournaments, so if FIDE isn't your thing yet, please support their other events.

North West Regional Report

By Derek Zhang, NW RVP

Tallahassee chess is back! On December 16, 2022, Tallahassee held its first over the board tournament since the beginning of the pandemic, as 19 players attended the Capital City Open held at the Dr. Benjamin Perry Library. According to Daaim Shabazz of *The Chess Drum*, although Tallahassee players had resumed the decades-long tradition of meeting at the Black Dog Cafe on Saturday afternoons, no one had organized a citywide over the board event.

The Capital City Open was hard fought, with 5 players tying for first place with 3 points each. These included expert Steven Lenhert, Richard Kennedy, Jacob Sperber, Caleb Parker, and Daniel Yang. Lenhert won the tournament title after beating Kennedy 1.5-0.5 in a two-game blitz tiebreaker. You can watch the tiebreaker match at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8KWoHMYot0 (Video Credit: Daaim Shabazz)

The tiebreaker match between Steven Lenhert (left) and Richard Kennedy (right)

The tournament was organized by Jacob Sperber, a high school sophomore from Tallahassee and rapidly rising tournament player who has gained over 600 rating points in the last six months. Jacob's current coach is NM Bryan Tillis, and he has previously studied under WGM Sabina Foisor and the late Master Don Conner.

Moving forward, Jacob plans to direct tournaments bimonthly in Tallahassee, with all proceeds from the tournaments donated to protect endangered wildlife in Florida through the Orianne Center for Indigo Conservation at the Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens. Players can register for the next Capital City Open, scheduled for February 25, on Chessregister.com.

Jacob Sperber (right) making the opening announcements at the Capital City Open.

Northwest Florida Chess Clubs:

Capital City Chess Club (Tallahassee) - https://www.thechessdrum.net/blog/2022/12/18/2022-capital-city-chess-open-tallahassee-fl/

Endgame Chess Academy (Gainesville) - https://www.endgamechessacademy.com

FSU Chess Club (Tallahassee) - ChessClubFSU@gmail.com, Regular meetings on Friday nights from 5-6:30 on Landis Green

Gator Chess Club (Gainesville) - https://gatorchessclub.com, Regular meetings on Thursday nights from 6-9 in Larsen Hall Room 234

Panama City Chess Club - pcbchess@yahoo.com

Pensacola Chess Club - lifemasteraj@yahoo.com

Perkins Restaurant Chess Meetup (Gainesville) - Regular meetings on Friday nights from 7-11 at Perkins Restaurant

Tallahassee Chess Club - http://www.tallahasseechess.com, Regular meetings on Saturday afternoons at the Black Dog Cafe at Lake Ella

University of West Florida (Pensacola) - https://www.facebook.com/groups/1648776415372738/

West Regional Report

By Timotey Gospodinov, W RVP

More chess clubs in West Florida!

Here in west Florida, chess has never been more popular than now. We have eight official chess clubs as well as a few other clubs that meet at various locations. Here is the story from one of the new chess organizers at West Florida. "My name is Andrei Sam, originally from Ukraine. I am a Tampa Bay-based videographer, and I didn't know how to play chess for my entire life! Just a year ago, my stepson taught me basic moves, and at first I was really confused. Later on, I went online and watched a number of video tutorials that drastically improved my chess skills. I became so obsessed with the game that I began spending entire nights online at Chess.com playing with people and organizing an offline Ukraine Chess Club! I wanted to combine chess with great food and fellowship, so our weekly chess meetups take place at Ukrainian and Eastern European restaurants around Tampa Bay. Most of these restaurants support Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees financially. That way, besides having fun playing chess, we are supporting these local businesses for a great cause!"

Grandmaster Vladimir Georgiev who moved to live in Venice also organize chess events. I asked him to send me information about him and his new chess club:

I am Grand Master Vladimir Georgiev, I moved to Venice Florida and I opened a small chess club at Venice 19923 Bridgetown Loop. We meet every Saturday from 10 am. As a chess coach with over 25 years of chess coaching experience, I have trained and helped many world class chess players. My most prominent student is GM Jeffery Xiong-World Champion U20(2016). Coach of Carissa Yup during the Cairns cup 2020 Coach of the US Youth Team at the World Youth Championship in Uruguay 2017 and PanAm games 2022 again in Uruguay. Coach of GM Antoaneta Stefanova 2004 Women's World Chess Champion in Elista Fide Trainer since 2004 and Grandmaster since 2000. Many of my students are US chess prodigies. Just to mention a few: Dimitar Mardov, who won the K3 Championship in SuperNationalsVI 2017 now he is number 2 in the World under 14 years old. Arthur Xu, silver medalist from World Chess Cadets U10 2017 in Pocos de Caldas qualified for the US Chess Junior 2023 in St Louis Maggie Feng and Emily Nguyen, both played a few times in the the US Chess Women Championship. Sophie Li-3K just tied for second at Florida Women State Championship. I participated in 8 Olympics games like a player and once like a coach. Won silver medal in Calvia 2004. Played the World cup 2007 in Russia. Played vs Carlsen and Caruana and other Top players before moving to USA 2014.

For questions please contact me at :gmvladko@gmail.com or 224-334-1048
Thanks,
Vladimir Georgiev

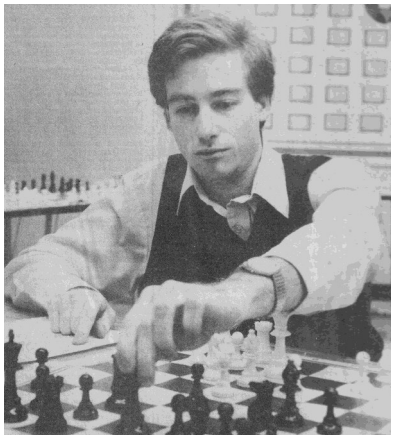
The majority of chess events and tournaments are held in Saint Petersburg, as is customary. The Saint Petersburg Chess Club continues to be open four days per week and also organizes at least three tournaments per month. Every year, December is the most exciting month for the Saint Petersburg Chess Club players because three different championships are held: adult club champion, scholastic club champion, and blitz club champion. I want to congratulate Augusto Campos, who is the new 2022 St. Petersburg Club Champion; Adel Abdullina, who is the 2022 Scholastic Club Champion; and Joshua Harrison, who is the 2022 Blitz Club Champion. Their names will stay on the club wall forever. For the first time this year, we ran a tournament just by invitation. We invited six people with a rating over 2000 to play for free, and we gave prizes up to $500. We put on a free blitz tournament with prizes for the winners. This is our way of expressing our gratitude to our players. You can visit our website for more information about chess in Saint Petersburg- https://chessclubjoy.webs.com/

Villages Report

By Mike Moschos

Organizing, directing and playing in chess tournaments opens up a new world, it provides a person the opportunity to meet so many interesting/talented people. Within Central Florida and especially within/nearby The Villages there are chess players that achieved stellar ratings and titles during their peak playing years. Players such as Peter Irwin, Alan Schalk, Matthew Noble, Douglas McClintock and Hans Schuschel. Today these players still love the game for it's beauty, creativity and for social engagement. Hans Schuschel passed away in 2018 at the age of 90 and The Villages 2019 Open honored his memory.

Alan Schalk



Alan lives in The Villages, Fl. National Chess Master and two-time Maine State Chess Champion. April 2011 Alan Schalk defeated Jim Dubois in the final round of the Maine State Championship, played in Augusta on April 9-10, 2011, to score 5.0 points and become the 2011 State Champion.

Excerpts from an interview with Liz Willen of the Foster's Daily Democrat (Jan. 1985) Alan stated he thinks a chess player is in many ways akin to an artist. Chess he says, requires aesthetic judgement, a measure of artistic talent, and the same type of all-encompassing concentration most artists need to create the works they are proudest of. Schalk recently proved his prowess as a player by taking on the entire York Chess Club, which has existed since 1977, as a way of earning money for the club. Each member contributed a dollar for the chance to play Schalk , who walked around a York Junior High School classroom piling up, pawns, quelling queens and collecting kings for more than two hours.

In an interview with Paul Wolterbeek of the The Hampton Union (Feb. 1988) Alan stated Chess gives people a sense of order, discipline and patience, which you don't always have when you're young.

Maine State Championship, Augusta, Maine 04/09/2011— White: A. Schalk (2076) Black : M. Fishbein (1944)
1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nf6 6.Be3 Bb4 7.f3 d5 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.e5 Nd7 10.f4 Qa5 11.Bd2 Nc5 12.a3 Bxc3 13.Bxc3 Qc7 14.Qg4 0-0 15.Bb4 Qb6 16.f5 Ne4 17.f6 Qf2+ 18.Kd1 g6 19.Bd3 Qd4 20.Kc1 Qe3+ 21.Kb1 Nf2 22.Qh4 Nxd3 23.cxd3 Ba6 24.Ka2 Rfc8 25.Rae1 Qxd3 26.Qh6 Qc4+ 27.Ka1 1-0

Maine Closed Championship, Augusta, Maine, 4/18/1999— White: A. Yergen (1936) Black : A. Schalk (2039)
1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. Nf3 O-O 5. Bf4 d6 6. Qd2 Re8 7. h3 Nc6 8. d5 Nb8 9. Bh6 Bh8 10. g4 e5 11. g5 Nh5 12. e3 f5 13. gxf6 Bxf6 14. Ne4 Bf5 15. Bd3 Bg7 16. Bg5 Qd7 17. Qc2 Na6 18. a3 c6 19. dxc6 Qxc6 20. b4 Nf4 21. exf4 exf4 22. O-O-O Bxe4 23. b5 Qc5 24. Bxe4 Qxa3+ 25. Kd2 Nb4 26. Qb1 Qc3+ 27. Ke2 Qxc4+ 28. Ke1 Rxe4+ 29. Kd2 Re2# 0-1

New Hampshire Open, Nashua, New Hampshire, 7/2000— White: Zhang, Melvin (1826) Black: Schalk, Alan (2036)
1. e4 d6 2. d4 c6 3. Nc3 Qc7 4. Nf3 Bg4 5. Be2 Nd7 6. O-O e5 7. Be3 Ne7 8. dxe5 dxe5 9. Nd2 Bxe2 10. Qxe2 Ng6 11. a4 Be7 12. Nc4 O-O 13. Rad1 b6 14. Rd2 Nc5 15. Rfd1 Rad8 16. Rxd8 Rxd8 17. Rxd8+ Qxd8 18. Qd2 Qc7 19. b3 h6 20. Nb2 Ne6 21. Nd3 Bg5 22. Bxg5 Nxg5 23. Qe3 Qd6 24. a5 Qa3 25. axb6 axb6 26. Qc1 Qa5 27. b4 Qa6 28. b5 cxb5 29. Qb2 b4 30. Nxb4 Qc4 31. Qb3 Qd4 32. Nd3 Nxe4 33. Ne2 Qa1+ 34. Nec1 Nf4 35. Qb2 Ne2+ 36. Kf1 Qxb2 37. Nxb2 Nxc1 38. f3 Nd6 39. Nd1 Nc4 40. Nc3 Ne3+ 41. Ke1 Nxg2+ 42. Kd1 Nh4 43. Kxc1 Nxf3 44. h3 Ng5 45. h4 Nf3 46. h5 Nd4 47. Kd1 b5 48. Nd5 f5 49. c3 Nc6 50. Ke2 Kf7 51. Kf3 g5 52. hxg6+ Kxg6 53. Ne3 Kg5 54. Ng2 h5 55. Kg3 f4+ 56. Kf3 h4 57. Ne1 Kf5 58. Kg2 e4 59. Kf2 h3 60. Kg1 Kg4 0-1

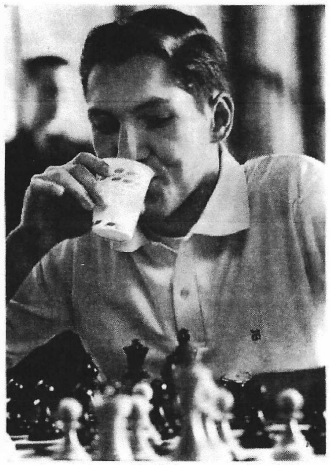
Peter Irwin

On Saturday, August 10, 1963,

The New York Times reported: Nineteen-year-old Peter Irwin of New Jersey won the United States Junior Chess Championship today at Pennsylvania State University with a score of 7 ½ - 1 ½ in a nine-round Swiss-system field of 73 players. He tied in total points with 20-year-p;d Myron Zelitch of Philadelphia, and was awarded first place on a tie-breaking count. Jeffrey Harris of Philadelphia was warded the title of national champion for players under 16. He ranked third in the tournament. Nine-year-old Russel Rapport of Washington was awarded the title of champion in the same event, for players under 12. Players from nine states and the District of Columbia took part in the event, which began on August 5, under the direction of international master Donald Byrne. The John W. Collins trophy for the junior championship went to Irwin. Irwin and Zelitch split a $100 college scholarship. Peter lives in The Villages.

Peter Irwin Wins Junior at Penn State 72 Play in Largest National Junior

by Mordecai Treblow, U.S.C.F. Junior Chess Committee Chairman
(**Partial excerpts CHESS LIFE October 1963)**



On Monday, August 5th, seventy-two young chess players and many officials gathered in the spacious and well-lighted ballroom of the Hetzel Union Building of The Pennsylvania State University for the start of the **John W. Collins Tournament for the U.S. Junior Chess Championship**, the largest national junior event ever held in this country. At stake for the forty rated and thirty-two un· rated players were the title, a $100 scholarship prize, and the custody for one year of the splendid John W. Collins Trophy. In addition there were eight permanent trophies, one rotating trophy, and three book prizes. F'OT everyone there was the thrill of competing in a national championship, and the real proof of the players' enjoyment was the fact that every one of the seventy· two players completed his five-day, nine round schedule.

In nine rounds of play. Peter Irwin, a protege of Edgar McCormick and a student at Bard College, scored six wins and three draws to take the title by 1/2 median point. His point score was equaled by Myron Zelitch, a Penn State sophomore, who won seven games, lost one, and drew one. The two split the $100 scholarship prize, and each received a permanent trophy. Zelitch also received a trophy donated by the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation for the Pennsylvanian with the best score.

In round 4, the first of many crucial battles among the prize winners took place when Peter Irwin, playing white, won from Myron Zelitch. Zelitch developed strong opening and a powerful middle game. but Irwin managed to hang on, and when Zelitch blundered, Irwin at once seized the ad· vantage and held it although he was seriously short of time. In the next two rounds, tournament-winner Irwin again showed the tenacity and resourcefulness of an experienced master. In difficult positions and faced with critical time trouble, he drew with Jeffrey Harris (round 5) and William Martz (round 6), the third and fourth prize winners respectively. In round 7 Jeffrey Harris just barely squeezed out a draw with William Martz, and Irwin moved into a tie for first with Harris by defeating Michael O'Donnell, Jersey City, N.J., a talented unrated player. In the semifinal round Zelitch won from Harris in a game which began as a positional struggle, but ended in wild complications as Harris fought back desperately. For the first time in the tournament Harris was out of first place and Irwin was in first alone. In the final round Vernon Robin.

U.S. Amateur Playoffs: Youth vs. Experience **by Peter Irwin CHESS LIFE October 1999**

To begin with, let me admit that I am a patzer. I entered the **1999 U.S. Amateur Championship** with two up-and coming juniors — Tamara Chanadiri of Soviet Georgia and Ben Schwartz of Tucson, Arizona — mostly on their behalf. The last non-team tournament in which I played was more than two decades ago; the last national title was three dozen years ago (1963 U.S. Junior Champion). I do clinical research, developing medicines for illnesses of the brain. Chess is an infrequent pleasure, a form of brain massage that occasionally gives rise to a wonder at the unexpected interrelationships among things. I have kept up with chess for the past 15 years primarily via a few postal games with Willi Waldhauser and Brian Glass, two former teammates from the Reichenstein Chess Club in Switzerland. Willi was a contender for the Marshall C.C. ! Championship — around the middle of this century. Brian is a colleague. Both are friends. My continuing fondness for chess grows out of such friendships and an appreciation for the role chess can play in developing thinking skills and life values in youth. Accordingly, the game that follows is against a 17-year old of impressive talent — the 1999 U.S. Amateur West Champion, Ann Marie Rosas. It was played over the Internet at game in one hour.

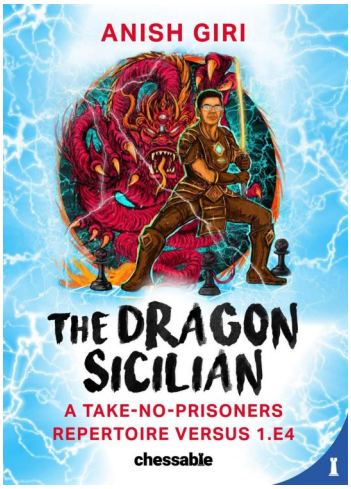
A fine game by Ms. Rosas, who could as easily have come out on top had the short time limit not dissuaded her from entering into some of the deeper midgame complications. Special thanks to Richard Disciascio who was the East TD and did more sweating than I did over the games, since the room where he managed the computer and the room where I was set up with board and clock were separated by three steps, which he had to traverse about 1,000 times. Kudos also to the overall tournament director for the event — Gary Prince — who was as considerate, well-organized, fair-minded, and helpful as any TD I have ever played under.

USA-chT Amateur East,Parsippany, NJ— White : Irwin, Peter Black : Nahumovich, Anatoly 03/20/2000
1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Nf6 4. e5 Nfd7 5. Bd3 c5 6. c3 Nc6 7. Ngf3 Qb6 8. Qa4 cxd4 9. cxd4 f6 10. O-O fxe5 11. dxe5 Nc5 12. Qb5 Nxd3 13. Qxd3 Be7 14. Nb3 O-O 15. Be3 Qd8 16. Bc5 Bxc5 17. Nxc5 b6 18. Nb3 a5 19. Qe3 Rb8 20.Rac1 Bd7 21. Nbd4 Nxd4 22. Nxd4 Rc8 23. Rxc8 Qxc8 24. Rc1 Qb7 25. f4 Bc8 26. Nb5 Qb8 27. Rc6 Bd7 28. Rxb6 Qc8 29. Nd6 Qc2 30. h3 Qd1+ 31. Kh2 d4 32. Qg3 Qc2 33. Rb7 Qc6 34. f5 exf5 35. Qb3+ Kh8 36. Nf7+ Score: 1-0

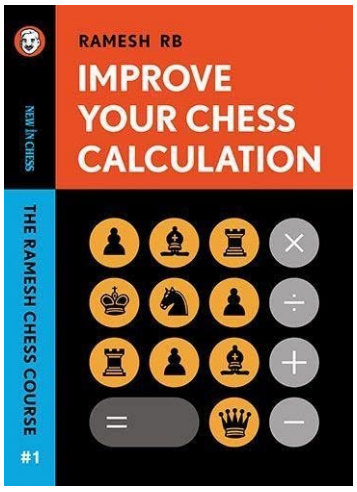
Book Reviews

by Miguel Ararat

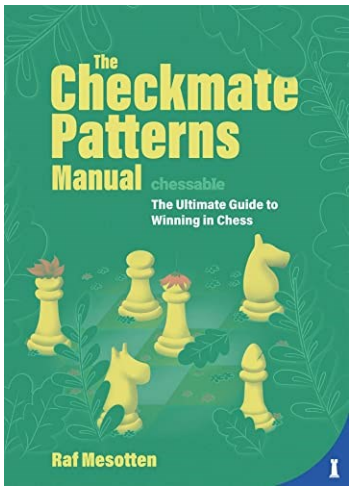
The purpose of this column to help the reader put together a set of quality resources to improve, develop a specific field of their chess skills or gather training material. My aim as a reviewer is to match quality books and DVDs with the needs of my readers. In this issue of FloridaChess I will go over four books which will help readers create and navigate positions in their chess games. The books are **The Dragon Sicilian a Take –No - Prisoners Repertoire Versus 1.e4** by GM Anish Giri, **Improve Your Chess Calculation** by Ramesh RB, Raf Mesotten's **Checkmate Patterns Manual** and Göran Forslund's book **Problem Chess Art and Magic on the Chessboard.** The authors have made a tremendous effort to create, organize, explain and summarize complex topics to reach amateur chess players.



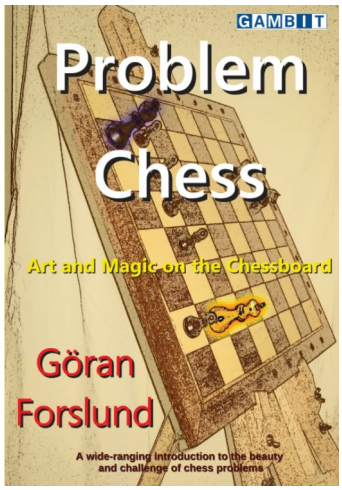
The Dragon variation of the Sicilian defense, or just the Dragon is one of the most popular ways to get an active position against 1.e4. The main roadblock that amateur players face to adopt the Dragon is the lack of a book that helps them navigate its intricacies with success. Fortunately, the wait for a single Dragon repertoire book has ended and chess lovers can learn to play the dragon from Anish Giri. The Dutch Grandmaster wrote **The Dragon Sicilian A-No-Prisoners Repertoire Versus 1.e4** which covers all the critical variations and sidelines. Giri is well known in chess circles for his deep chess preparation. In this book, Giri uses all his chess analytical skills and use of modern chess engines to deliver a complete repertoire in under 250 pages. This book helps the enthusiast to play the Dragon without taking shortcuts that compromise solidity. Unlike previous authors on the Dragon, Giri provides extensive explanations in words and relies less on convoluted variations to support his choices. **The Dragon Sicilian A-No- Prisoners Repertoire Versus 1.e4** is the best amateur friendly resource in the Dragon from The Dragon from a top five chess player in the world. Recommended 5/5 stars!



Chess players require efficient calculation of variations, instant recognition of checkmate patters and a penchant for a creative unconventional play to succeed in sharp positions. The first skill, the calculation of variations can be learned and practiced with the book Improve your chess calculation by Ramesh RB. Ramesh is one of the best chess trainers in the world and having the opportunity to learn from him how to calculate is a thrilling opportunity. The author starts the book by explaining the differences between static and dynamic positions in chess, in a manner similar to Dorfman's book The Method. In the following chapter Ramesh covers the analytical process to work on chess positions to get to the right decision(s). This is my favorite chapter because of the nice mix of explanations, examples and practice. The author also elaborates on forcing moves, typical mistakes and calculation, the value of chess studies as tools to improve your calculation skills and a list of suggestions to improve at chess. You can no go wrong buying and working on **Improve your Chess Calculation.** Recommended 5/5 stars!



As Nigel Short pointed out "checkmate ends the game" and a good grip on the basic checkmates is a must to play sharp chess. **Raf Mesotten's Checkmate Patterns Manual** is a guide for 29 checkmate models, plus a generous amount of exercises to solve**.** Having students follow the content in both, variations and visual aids on diagrams is an effective teaching combination. The color illustration and the names of each pattern help very young readers to associate and better remember the material. The key values of this book are, the way the material is presented, the extra exercises, high-quality paper, illustrations and hardcover. Recommended 5/5 stars!



Creativity, imagination and a sense of beauty are the hallmarks of chess. Generations of chess players rejoice going through Mihail Tal's offensive games, the amazing beauty of his combinations are timeless. Some chess resources like endgame studies and problem chess can stimulate the sense of beauty of a chess player. I recommend Göran Forslund's book Problem Chess Art and Magic on the Chessboard to any chess fan looking to learn more about the basics of chess problems. The author expresses in a little over 100 pages his passion for chess problems as well as the basic feature of the subject for novices. The author's explanations are clear, fluent and personal, allowing the reader to connect with the nuances of chess problems. **Problem Chess Art and Magic on the Chessboard** opens the world of chess problems for every chess lover with conciseness and passion. Recommended 5/5 stars!

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"I prefer this way of resolving conflict."

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CHESS CALENDAR

Florida Chess Tournaments Clearing House
clearinghouse@FloridaChess.org

Date	Event	Location	Contact
Mar 4	Florida South Regional Championship	Boca Raton, Florida	BRCC
Mar 10-12	FCA State Scholastic Championship	Orlando, Florida	FCA
Apr 1	GM Sam Shankland at UF	Gainesville, Florida	GCC
April 16	Collegiate State Championship	Online	FCA
Apr 30	FCA Florida Senior Open	The Villages, Florida	FCA
May 19-21	28th Space Coast Open	Cape Canaveral, Florida	SCF
July 15-16	2023 National Junior Chess Congress	Orlando, Florida	HCA

*Additional Tournament info at FloridaChess.org and ChessRegister.com

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Florida Chess Association, Inc.
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Newberry, FL 32669

2023 Florida State Scholastic Championship!!!

March 10,11,12 at the Wyndham Orlando Resort International Drive
8001 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819
Full Details at FloridaChess.org

2023 Florida State
Collegiate Chess Championship

Sunday, April 16th — Online at Chess.com
Free Entry! Must have current USCF and FCA membership.
More Details & Registration at ChessRegister.com